	<p align="center">DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FISHERIES DIRECTORATE ANIMAL HEALTH</p>
	<p align="center">AFRICAN HORSE SICKNESS CONTROL STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE:</p> <p align="center">STANDARDS FOR THE REGISTRATION, MANAGEMENT AND MOVEMENT THROUGH A VECTOR PROTECTED QUARANTINE FACILITY FOR AFRICAN HORSE SICKNESS MOVEMENT CONTROL</p>
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AHS Control SOP: Standards for the Registration, Management and Movement Through a Vector Protected Quarantine Facility for AHS Movement Control

Part A

PURPOSE, SCOPE AND APPLICATION

1. Purpose

1.1. The purpose of this Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) is to describe the minimum standards acceptable for:

- a) The registration of a vector protected (VP) quarantine facility for AHS movement control;
- b) The design and management of a VP quarantine facility for AHS movement control;
- c) The movement of horses from a VP quarantine facility into an AHS controlled area.

2. Legislation

2.1. The Animal Diseases Act 1984 (Act no 35 of 1984):

- a) African horse sickness (AHS) is a controlled animal disease as defined in section 1 of the Animal Diseases Act, 1984 (Act no. 35 of 1984) in that control measures have been prescribed in terms of section 9 of the Act (Animal Diseases Regulations, No. R. 2026 of 26 September 1986, Table 2, as amended). Therefore, all statutory requirements applicable to controlled diseases are applicable to AHS.
- b) Regulation 20 (1) (a) (vii) states that no person shall, except under the authority of a permit issued by the responsible state veterinarian and otherwise than in accordance with the conditions specified in such permit move or remove any controlled animal or thing to, across or from land in a controlled area.

2.2. The latest official version of the Veterinary Procedural Notice for African horse sickness control, available on the DAFF website, [www.daff.gov.za >branches> Agricultural Production Health and Food Safety>Animal Health> Information](http://www.daff.gov.za/branches/Agricultural%20Production%20Health%20and%20Food%20Safety/Animal%20Health/Information).

2.3. This document does not supersede any other relevant legislation.

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3. Definitions and Abbreviations

- a) **“AHS”** African horse sickness
- b) **“AHS Movement Permit”** is an official documented permission, including all associated and/or stipulated conditions, issued by the responsible state veterinarian, required for an equid to move to a zone of higher AHS control, or within a zone in the AHS controlled area where relevant, or out of an AHS outbreak area where relevant. The delegated responsible state veterinarian for issuing the movement permit for AHS movement control is the State Veterinarian: Boland. (SV: Boland)
- c) **“Certification by a veterinarian”** must comply with the requirements for certification in terms of the Veterinary and Para-Veterinary Professions Act 1982 (Act no 19 of 1982) and Regulations and Rules, the Animal Diseases Act 1984 (Act no 35 of 84) and Regulations as well as the OIE requirements for certification or any legislation that may replace the relevant legislation currently in place, and should include the signature of the veterinarian, the veterinarian’s full name, qualification and practice stamp/address.
- d) **“High risk area”** means a state veterinary area that the local state veterinarian and/or SV: Boland deem to be high risk for direct movements of equids into the AHS controlled area due to any or a combination of the following: Time of year, a suspicion of or a case of AHS within a 30 km radius in the previous 40 days, weather patterns that may suggest increased vector activity, large or changing populations of feral or wild equids, sub-optimal reporting of equine diseases in the area, or any other factor that may indicate an increase in risk.
- e) **“Independent inspector”** means a veterinarian or para veterinary professional; or an FEI steward; or a National Horse Racing Authority (NHA) official; or any other official authorised by the National Director: Animal Health (DAH) and appointed by SV: Boland to perform inspections of the facility.
- f) **“Passport”** is the identification document that positively identifies the equine. The format of the passport must comply with the minimum standards as set out in the AHS Control SOP: Acceptable Identification of Equines.
- g) **“Registered equine”** means an equine identified by means of a passport that is compliant with the AHS Control SOP: Acceptable Identification of Equines, issued by an Approved Passport Issuing Agency as defined in the AHS VPN.

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- h) **“Vector protected (VP) quarantine facility for AHS movement control”** means a specific vector protected facility approved by SV: Boland for the purpose of movement of equines into the AHS controlled area. Equines are held at the VP quarantine facility according to the protocol as described in the AHS Control SOP: Standards for the Registration, Management and Movement Through a Vector Protected Quarantine Facility for African horse sickness Movement Control, for a minimum of 14 days and tested negative for AHS virus before they are allowed to move to the AHS controlled area.
- i) **“Veterinarian”** means a qualified veterinarian according to the Veterinary and Para-Veterinary Professions Act 1982 (Act no 19 of 82) and registered with the South African Veterinary Council.

4. Application

4.1. This SOP is applicable to:

- a) All facilities that are registered or may be considered for registration as a VP quarantine facility for AHS movement control.
- b) All state veterinarians (SV's), veterinarians and other officials involved in the inspection, registration and monitoring of a VP quarantine facility for AHS movement control.
- c) All owners, managers, and other role-players who are involved in the registration, management and operation of a VP quarantine facility for AHS movement control.
- d) All owners and transporters who make use of, or transport horses from a VP quarantine facility for AHS movement control into the AHS controlled area.

5. Scope

5.1. The aim of a VP quarantine facility for AHS movement control is to facilitate movement of registered horses to an AHS controlled area:

- a) Where an AHS movement permit cannot be issued for direct movement of horses due to the AHS risk status of the area of origin.
- b) Where a horse has not been vaccinated against AHS according to the requirements set out for the movement of registered horses in the latest official

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- version of the Veterinary Procedural Notice for African horse sickness control available on the DAFF website, www.daff.gov.za >branches> Agricultural Production Health and Food Safety>Animal Health> Information; or a horse has not been vaccinated in accordance with the AHS vaccine manufacturer's recommendations. A horse that has been vaccinated in the AHS infected zone less than 40 days before movement, may not move into the AHS controlled area through a VP quarantine facility for AHS movement control.
- c) Any other equine directed to undergo vector protected quarantine at a VP quarantine facility for AHS movement control prior to movement by SV: Boland or the DAH.

Part B

PROCEDURE FOR REGISTRATION OF A VECTOR PROTECTED QUARANTINE FACILITY FOR AHS MOVEMENT CONTROL

1. General

- 1.1. VP quarantine facilities for AHS movement control must be approved by and registered with SV: Boland for this purpose.
- 1.2. VP quarantine facilities for AHS movement control, although approved and monitored by state veterinary authorities, are not state owned enterprises and are constructed, maintained and managed commercially by private individuals.
- 1.3. The state veterinary services are not responsible for any costs associated with a VP quarantine facility for AHS movement control or the costs associated with the protocol for movement through a VP quarantine facility for AHS movement control, i.e. all costs are incurred at the owner's expense. The state is not liable for any losses or damage that may result to any party with regard to the use of a VP quarantine facility for AHS movement control in any way whatsoever.
- 1.4. The state veterinary services does not have any influence on the fees charged by VP quarantine facilities for AHS movement control and is not a party to the contractual agreement between the owner and the VP quarantine facility for AHS

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movement control in any way and not liable in any way for losses or damages caused to either party whatsoever.

- 1.5. The registration of a VP quarantine facility for AHS movement control will only be considered if the structure and management of the facility complies with the requirements of this SOP.
- 1.6. The manager of the VP quarantine facility for AHS movement control is responsible for ensuring that the protocol as described in this SOP is followed.
- 1.7. The manager of the VP quarantine facility for AHS movement control is responsible for the welfare and care of the horses at the facility.
- 1.8. The registration of a VP quarantine facility for AHS movement control is valid for one year and registration must be renewed annually.

2. Application to register a VP quarantine facility for AHS movement control

- 2.1. The owner/manager of the facility must apply in writing to SV: Boland for the registration or renewal of registration of a VP quarantine facility for AHS movement control. The application will be assessed by SV: Boland in collaboration with the local state veterinarian.
- 2.2. The documents listed below must be presented to SV: Boland on application for registration:
 - a) "Application for Registration or Re-registration of a Vector Protected Quarantine Facility for AHS Movement Control", available from SV: Boland, must be completed and signed by the applicant (owner/manager), the applicant's appointed private veterinarian and the local state veterinarian responsible for the inspection and supervision of the VP quarantine facility for AHS movement control.
 - b) "Manager Declaration" available from SV: Boland must be completed and signed by the owner and manager responsible for the maintenance and management of the VP quarantine facility for AHS movement control.
 - c) A clearly marked site plan. The purpose of the site plan is to assess the function of the facility as a VP quarantine facility for AHS movement control, the proximity of other equidae and the risk posed by potential vector breeding sites. The site plan must indicate:

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- i. Where the proposed VP quarantine facility for AHS movement control will be situated on the holding as well as the surrounding structures on the premises, particularly structures within 200m of the VP facility where the horses undergoing quarantine will be housed during the high vector activity period of the day;
 - ii. Boundary fences, access points, loading areas, roads and any rivers, marshy or vlei areas that could be a breeding site for large numbers of midges;
 - iii. A detailed plan of the VP quarantine stabling facility, paddocks and work areas that will be used for horses under the VP quarantine protocol for AHS movement control.
 - d) A standard operating procedure (SOP) for operation of the VP quarantine facility for AHS movement control, including staff training, access control, individual animal temperature and disease monitoring, sample collection and handling and measures to decrease the risk of exposure to vectors.
- 2.3. Application for registration of a VP quarantine facility for AHS movement control must be submitted at least two months prior to intended use of the facility for AHS movement control purposes.
- 2.4. Application for re-registration of a VP quarantine facility for AHS movement control must be submitted at least two months prior to expiry of a previous registration.

3. Inspection to approve a vector protected quarantine facility for AHS movement control

- 3.1. If the site and stabling plans indicate the facility may be suitable for registration as a VP quarantine facility for AHS movement control, SV: Boland will recommend the facility for inspection and request the local state veterinarian to liaise with the applicant and schedule an inspection.
- 3.2. The owner/manager of the facility and the local state veterinarian must agree upon a suitable date for an inspection.
- 3.3. The basis for approval will be compliance with the requirements as described in this SOP. SV: Boland and the local state veterinarian will inform the owner/manager of the facility of any additional information that may be required for the inspection.

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- 3.4. Records of all correspondence, standard operating procedures, registers, checklists and inspection reports must be kept for auditing purposes by the manager of the VP quarantine facility for AHS movement control and SV: Boland for a period of two years.
- 3.5. SV: Boland will consult with the local state veterinarian regarding:
- i. The structural layout,
 - ii. The detailed plans of the vector protected quarantine stabling facility,
 - iii. The assessed administrative capabilities of the manager and the operational suitability of the holding.
- 3.6. The local state veterinarian will inspect the potential VP quarantine facility for AHS movement control according to this SOP to assess whether:
- i. The VP quarantine facility and holding comply with the requirements and conditions of this SOP and any additional requirements as deemed necessary;
 - ii. The standard operating procedures and registers for the facility are available and comply with the requirements for a VP quarantine facility for AHS movement control;
 - iii. The VP quarantine facility and holding correspond with the site and stable plans provided.
- 3.7. The local state veterinarian will complete the VP quarantine facility for AHS movement control inspection report and forward the report to the owner/manager of the VP quarantine facility and SV: Boland within 10 working days of the inspection. The template for this report must be obtained from SV: Boland.
- 3.8. If the VP quarantine facility does not comply with the requirements of this SOP or is deemed unsuitable for any other reason:
- a) The local state veterinarian will provide the owner/manager and SV: Boland with a detailed report with the reasons why the VP quarantine facility cannot be approved.
 - b) If relevant, the local state veterinarian will arrange for another inspection when the owner/manager indicates that all the deficiencies identified have been rectified.

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- 3.9. If the VP quarantine facility is found suitable and compliant with the requirements of this SOP, SV Boland will issue the registration certificate. The original certificate will be sent to the owner/manager, a copy will be sent to the local state veterinarian and a copy will be filed for auditing purposes.

4. Listing of a vector protected quarantine facility for AHS movement control

- 4.1. All registered VP quarantine facilities for AHS movement control must be listed in an official "List of registered VP quarantine facilities for AHS movement control" compiled and regularly up-dated by SV: Boland.
- 4.2. The list of registered VP quarantine facilities for AHS movement control must contain the following information for each facility:
- a) Registration number of the facility as assigned by SV: Boland;
 - b) Registered name and address of the facility;
 - c) Name, contact telephone numbers and an email address of the owner/manager of the facility;
 - d) Name, contact telephone numbers and an email address of the local state veterinarian;
 - e) Province;
 - f) District/municipality.

5. Re-Registration of a vector protected quarantine facility for AHS movement control

- 5.1. The registration of a VP quarantine facility for AHS movement control is valid for a period of 1 (one) year.
- 5.2. The owner/manager of a registered VP quarantine facility for AHS movement control must contact SV: Boland in writing and complete the relevant application for re-registration, available from SV: Boland, at least two months before the expiry date of the registration certificate, to arrange for a re-inspection of the VP quarantine facility.
- 5.3. Copies of site and stable plans need not be submitted annually, unless there are major structural changes that have taken place.

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- 5.4. Copies of inspection reports with check lists and SOP's evaluated during the inspection and a record of all correspondence must be kept for auditing purposes by the owner/manager of the facility and SV: Boland.
 - 5.5. VP quarantine facilities for AHS movement control may only be re-registered once the application for re-registration has been received, evaluated and approved by SV: Boland and the facility has passed an inspection by the local state veterinarian.
 - 5.6. Re-registration applies to the annual re-registration of VP quarantine facilities for AHS movement control. It does not apply to a new application or to facilities that have had their registration revoked for any reason or where registration has lapsed.
- 6. De-Registration of a vector protected quarantine facility for AHS movement control**
- 6.1. The registration of a VP quarantine facility for AHS movement control can be withdrawn at any time, at the discretion of the SV: Boland and the local state veterinarian if any shortcomings or non-conformances are detected.
 - 6.2. If a VP quarantine facility for AHS movement control has not been re-inspected and re-registered prior to the end of the one year registration period, the facility will automatically be de-registered on the date of expiry.
 - 6.3. The registration of a VP quarantine facility for AHS movement control will be withdrawn if the manager of the VP quarantine facility is changed without prior notice and consultation with SV: Boland and the local state veterinarian.

Part C

REQUIREMENTS FOR A VECTOR PROTECTED QUARANTINE FACILITY FOR AHS MOVEMENT CONTROL

1. Structural requirements for a vector protected quarantine facility for AHS movement control

- 1.1. The VP quarantine facility for AHS movement control should not be located within 100m of stagnant water filled with organic matter or within 100m of compost heaps, or within 100m of other features that are likely midge breeding sites. This

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includes all areas where horses undergoing VP quarantine for AHS movement control are stabled, handled, grazed or worked.

- 1.2. A warning sign must be placed at the entrance to the VP quarantine facility for AHS movement control, indicating that it is a quarantine area and that unauthorized access is not permitted.
- 1.3. The VP stable building must be constructed of solid walls and a solid ceiling with no un-screened gaps in the construction, robust enough so that the horses to be quarantined are not able to cause damage that would create a breach in vector protection or injure themselves.
- 1.4. The VP stable building must have sufficient space, light and ventilation to safeguard the welfare of the horses throughout the VP quarantine period.
- 1.5. All doors to the VP stable building should be lockable and in good working order.
- 1.6. There should be no unscreened doors or windows that can open to the outside of the VP stable building.
- 1.7. Entry and exit to the VP stable building must be through a double-door entry and exit system where one of the doors must be closed if the other door is open. The requirement for a double door entry/exit may be waived at the discretion of SV: Boland on the understanding that should the VP stable building be entered after the lockdown period between 15h00 in the afternoon and 10h00 in the morning the following day, the VP quarantine period will have to be restarted from day 1.
- 1.8. All netting used for screening must be of appropriate gauge to be effective against midges e.g. 80-100 % shade cloth (Alnet) or equivalent vector proof material. Metal mesh is not suitable.
- 1.9. The floor of the VP stable building must be constructed from material that is easy to clean and does not allow pooling of water, i.e. this excludes dirt floors.
- 1.10. All air inlets and drains of the VP stable building must be constructed with filters or screens to prevent entry of vectors. Filters and screens must be in good repair, changed regularly and must be checked before the start of each VP quarantine period.
- 1.11. Regular maintenance must be performed by the owner/manager to ensure the stable building is vector protected and all screening is securely fixed so that it does not become dislodged or loose at any time and all screening is in good repair with no tears, holes or gaps through which midges may enter the building.

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- 1.12. There must be a functioning automatic insecticide dispenser (e.g. alphacypermethrin or cypermethrin) inside the stabling area as well as inside the double door entry/exit system at all times during the quarantine period.
- 1.13. The VP quarantine stables, paddocks, work areas and loading facilities must be of suitable repair and construction to ensure the smooth functioning of the facility, safety of the handlers and welfare of the horses.
- 1.14. There must be good drainage to prevent pools of standing water after rain or cleaning to limit potential breeding sites for vectors.
- 1.15. Disposal methods for garbage/waste of all kinds and discarded equipment must limit the formation of midge breeding sites and must be in accordance with all relevant requirements of South African law.
- 1.16. An office must be available at the VP quarantine facility for AHS movement control for safe and orderly storage of records.
- 1.17. The transport vehicle transporting the horse from the VP quarantine facility for AHS movement control to the AHS controlled area must be vector protected:
 - 1.17.1. All openings must be screened with netting of appropriate gauge, e.g. 80-100% shade cloth (Alnet) or equivalent vector proof material. Metal mesh is not suitable. Where glass windows are present, these should be secured or covered with netting. As loading takes place during daylight hours and a moving vehicle is not regarded as high risk, SV: Boland may approve alternative vector protection methods for transport vehicles, e.g. automatic insecticide dispensers or misting systems.
 - 1.17.2. The inside of the vehicle and all netting must be sprayed with an insect repellent and insecticide registered in terms of the Fertilizers, Farm Feed, Agricultural Remedies and Stock Remedies Act, 1947 (Act No. 36 of 1947) before loading.

2. Management requirements for a vector protected quarantine facility for AHS movement control

- 2.1. Insecticides are compounds which kill insects such as *Culicoides* midges on contact with the substance. Insect repellents are compounds which repel and prevent *Culicoides* midges from settling on, and biting, a horse. It is therefore important that both insecticides and repellents are used.

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- 2.2. All insecticides and insect repellents used at the VP facility for AHS movement control must be registered in terms of the Fertilizers, Farm Feed, Agricultural Remedies and Stock Remedies Act, 1947 (Act No. 36 of 1947) for use against *Culicoides* midges and used according to the manufacturer's instructions. The repellent must contain 15% DEET or another scientifically justifiable registered product with a suitable active ingredient as permitted by SV: Boland.
- 2.3. SV: Boland must be informed immediately if there are major structural changes to the VP quarantine facility for AHS movement control or if there are any management changes at the VP quarantine facility for AHS movement control as these changes may necessitate suspension of the registration of the VP quarantine facility for AHS movement control until re-inspection and re-approval has occurred.
- 2.4. SV: Boland must be informed of any known changes in the activities on the holding or on neighbouring holdings that involve equidae.
- 2.5. Movement of horses through the VP quarantine facility for AHS movement control must be managed in accordance with Part D: "Protocol for movement through a vector protected quarantine facility for AHS movement control".
- 2.6. All standard operating procedures and registers specified under Part B: "Procedure for registration of a VP quarantine facility for AHS movement control" and Part D: "Protocol for movement through a VP quarantine facility for AHS movement control" must be kept by the manager of the VP quarantine facility for AHS movement control in an auditable format and be readily accessible at the facility to the local state veterinarian, consulting private veterinarian, independent inspector or SV: Boland, even if the manager is not present.
- 2.7. Standard operating procedures and registers must be kept for a period of two years or from registration of the facility if registration occurred less than two years previously.
- 2.8. Access to the VP stable building must be by means of a double door entry/exit system where one of the doors must be closed if the other door is open.
- 2.9. No unauthorized persons may be allowed entry into the VP quarantine facility for AHS movement control. Visitors should be under the supervision of a trained staff member when in the facility.
- 2.10. The doors of the VP stable building must remain closed throughout the high risk period of the day. During the low risk period of the day while the horses are outside

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and while the stable building is cleaned, the doors may remain open for a limited period to facilitate cleaning.

- 2.11. The inside surfaces, including the netting of the VP stable building must be treated with a residual insecticide spray registered for use in animal housing and used in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations. The insecticide must be registered in terms of the Fertilizers, Farm Feeds, Agricultural Remedies and Stock Remedies Act, 1947 (Act No. 36 of 1947), and applied:
 - a) before the horse enters the VP stable building for the beginning of the VP quarantine period, and
 - b) daily, before the horse re-enters the VP stable building e.g. after it is worked or turned out.
- 2.12. Roughage to be fed must be treated to reduce the risk of possible vector introduction to the VP stable building by immersing it in water or treating it in a method approved by SV: Boland.
- 2.13. To reduce the risk of possible vector introduction to the VP stable building, bagged wood shavings or rubber mats must be used as bedding. These bags should be opened inside the stable building. Alternate bedding may only be used if it is treated in a method approved by SV: Boland.
- 2.14. The local state veterinarian and SV: Boland must be immediately informed of any suspicion or a case of AHS in the area or any break in the VP quarantine or movement protocol.
- 2.15. Once a VP facility for AHS movement control is approved and registered, SV: Boland will appoint an independent inspector to monitor the facility during operation as a VP facility for AHS movement control.
- 2.16. The independent inspector, state veterinarian and SV: Boland must be granted access to the facility at all times.
- 2.17. The independent inspector will perform inspections before the start of and during the VP quarantine period under the supervision of the local state veterinarian and SV: Boland.
- 2.18. State veterinary services will not be responsible for any costs associated with the inspections performed by the independent inspector.

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- 2.19. The independent inspector will issue SV: Boland and the local state veterinarian with an inspection report at the end of each VP quarantine period.

Part D

PROTOCOL FOR MOVEMENT THROUGH A VP QUARANTINE FACILITY FOR AHS MOVEMENT CONTROL

1. The owner/manager or agent of the horse must apply to SV: Boland for a permit for movement through a VP quarantine facility for AHS movement control. An AHS movement permit application form must be completed in full and sent to move@myhorse.org.za with all the required supporting documentation, before the horse is moved to the VP quarantine facility for AHS movement control.
2. The owner/manager or agent of the horse must book directly with the manager of the VP quarantine facility for AHS movement control and ensure confirmation of the booking is received, i.e. booking space at the VP quarantine facility for AHS movement control is the responsibility of the owner/manager or agent of the horse and not the responsibility of the local state veterinarian or SV: Boland.
3. Arrangements must be made by the owner/manager or agent of the horse for vector protected transport from the VP quarantine facility for AHS movement control to the AHS controlled area before the start of the VP quarantine period.
4. A negative RT-PCR test for AHS, run at a laboratory approved by the DAH is required before horses may enter the VP quarantine facility for AHS movement control. Samples for testing must not have been collected more than 72 hours before intended entry.
5. SV: Boland will appoint an independent inspector to perform inspections before the start of and during the VP quarantine period. The costs associated with the inspections performed by the independent inspector will be for the account of the owner of the horse.
6. A VP quarantine facility for AHS movement control must operate an “all in all out” system.
7. Before horses enter the registered facility for the start of VP quarantine for AHS movement control, the facility must be cleaned and disinfected and treated with

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insecticide. Sealing of the VP stable building and the functioning of the double door entry/exit system must be checked.

8. Horses must be individually identified before the start of the VP quarantine period with a passport that complies with the requirements of the AHS control SOP: Acceptable Identification of Equines. The passport must accompany the horse at all times.
9. The manager of the VP quarantine facility for AHS movement control must notify SV: Boland by email sent to move@myhorse.co.za and the local state veterinarian of the arrival of the horse. The arrival notification email must include the name of the horse, passport number and/or microchip number, date and time of arrival, negative test result for AHS, estimated date of departure and confirm the horse appears clinically healthy.
10. Day 1(one) of the VP quarantine period will only start after SV: Boland has given written permission for the VP quarantine period to start. SV: Boland will only confirm the start of the VP quarantine period if:
 - a) The VP quarantine manager has provided all the required details in the written notification of the arrival of the horse received by SV: Boland.
 - b) The AHS movement permit application with all supporting documentation and a negative AHS test result as described in point 4 above, has been received by SV: Boland and is compliant.
11. Each horse must spend at least 14 consecutive days in VP quarantine. Horses in VP quarantine may not leave the holding on which the VP quarantine facility for AHS movement control is situated during the VP quarantine period.
12. Once in VP quarantine and until the horse leaves VP quarantine with an AHS movement permit:
 - a) Horses must be stabled continuously in the VP stable building from 15:00 in the afternoon to 10:00 the following morning.
 - b) Entry for personnel, veterinarians or other persons to the VP stable building from 15:00 to 10:00 is only permitted through a double door entry/exit system.
 - c) A vector repellent and insecticide registered for use on horses under the Fertilizers, Farm Feed, Agricultural Remedies and Stock Remedies Act, 1947 (Act No.36 of 1947) must be applied to preferred midge biting sites, i.e. head, neck, back, tail base and belly in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions:

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- i. Before the horse enters the VP stable building on the first day of the 14 day VP quarantine period, and
 - ii. before the horse exits the VP stable building each day, and
 - iii. the vector repellent and insecticide must be reapplied according to the manufacturer's instructions throughout the period the horse is outside the VP stable building.
 - d) The rectal temperature of the horse must be taken and recorded twice a day, in the morning and evening.
 - e) Any above normal rise in temperature or any other clinical signs that may be indicative of an infectious disease must immediately be reported to the local state veterinarian and SV: Boland. This notification should be followed with a notification in writing within 24 hours.
13. If horses are removed from the VP stable building during the hours of 15:00 in the afternoon to 10:00 the next morning or from the holding for any reason during the VP quarantine period, the local state veterinarian and SV: Boland must be informed by the VP quarantine manager immediately, and confirmation of the removal of the horse must be sent in writing to move@myhorse.org.za within 24 hours. SV: Boland and the local state veterinarian will determine if VP quarantine will need to be restarted.
14. The manager of the VP quarantine facility for AHS movement control must ensure the following registers are kept and made available to the local state veterinarian, consulting private veterinarian, independent inspector and SV: Boland on request:
 - a) A register of staff training and education of visitors.
 - b) An access control register for staff, veterinarians and all visitors indicating the date and time of each visit, name of the visitor, purpose of the visit, designation, contact details and a signature.
 - c) A register of all horse/s undergoing VP quarantine for traceability purposes. Horse details must be recorded including the horse name, passport number, microchip number, details of the last set of AHS vaccinations (batch, date and administering veterinarian), place of origin, date of arrival at the VP quarantine facility for AHS movement control, date of the start of VP quarantine period, sampling dates, testing results, laboratory reference numbers, departure date, destination and AHS movement permit number.

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- d) A register of the rectal temperatures for each horse in VP quarantine, taken and recorded twice daily, in the morning and in the afternoon.
 - e) A register of the date and time each horse was allowed out of the VP stable building and returned to the VP stable building during the VP quarantine period.
 - f) A register of each application of insecticide at the VP quarantine facility for AHS movement control and each application of insecticide on the horse with the name of the product, batch number and expiry date clearly recorded.
 - g) A register of each application of insect repellent on the horse with the name of the product, batch number and expiry date clearly recorded.
 - h) A register describing any break in VP quarantine protocol, e.g. transport to a veterinary hospital for emergency care or if a horse escapes.
 - i) A register of disease investigations and veterinary care required for any horse in VP quarantine.
15. A minimum of 14 days after the official start of VP quarantine and as long as there has been no break in VP quarantine, a blood sample must be drawn by a veterinarian or a para-veterinary professional and submitted to a laboratory approved by the DAH for AHS RT-PCR testing.
- a) Samples may not be collected prior to day 14.
 - b) The laboratory should be contacted for their preferred method of sampling, packaging and transportation.
 - c) The laboratory submission form must be completed in full and must note that the test is for movement under the VP quarantine protocol.
 - d) On the day of sampling, the private veterinarian must check the temperature logs for the horse and advise SV: Boland if the temperature logs are not complete or if any irregularities are noted.
 - e) The horse must be kept under vector protected conditions from the time of sampling until the horse is loaded into the transport vehicle for transport to the AHS controlled area.
 - f) The horse must test negative on a RT-PCR for AHS at a laboratory approved by the DAH on a blood sample collected not more than 72 hours prior to the intended entry into the AHS controlled area.

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16. An AHS movement permit issued by SV: Boland is required for movement to an AHS controlled area after completion of the VP quarantine period. SV: Boland will only consider issuing a permit for the movement of the horse from the VP quarantine to the AHS controlled area if:
- a) Permission was granted by SV: Boland in writing for the start of the VP quarantine period;
 - b) There has been no break in VP quarantine and there is no indication that there were any irregularities during VP quarantine;
 - c) SV: Boland has received written negative AHS test results on a RT-PCR for AHS performed at a laboratory approved by the DAH on blood samples collected at least 14 days after the start of VP quarantine and not more than 72 hours prior to the intended entry into the AHS controlled area;
 - d) The independent inspector confirmed there is no reason to doubt the requirements of this SOP were followed.
17. The private veterinarian must complete the Health Certificate for Movement (HCM) in the passport and pre-notify SV: Boland of the movement of the horse into the AHS controlled area.
18. Horses may only be transported from the VP quarantine facility for AHS movement control to the AHS controlled area in vector protected transport as described in Part C 1.17 of this SOP:
- a) The inside of the transport vehicle including any netting must be sprayed with a residual insecticide registered for use in animal housing and used in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations, prior to loading. The insecticide must be registered in terms of the Fertilizers, Farm Feeds, Agricultural Remedies and Stock Remedies Act, 1947 (Act No. 36 of 1947).
 - b) Each horse must be treated with an insecticide and an insect repellent, registered for use in horses under the Fertilizers, Farm Feed, Agricultural Remedies and Stock Remedies Act, 1947 (Act No.36 of 1947) applied to preferred midge biting sites, i.e. head, neck, back, tail base and belly in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions, prior to loading.
 - c) Loading may only take place during daylight hours between 10h00 and 15h00.

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- d) The independent inspector or local state veterinarian or authorised official will inspect the VP transport vehicle prior to loading and seal the transport vehicle after loading.
- e) The horse must be transported directly to the destination in the AHS controlled area under continuous vector protected conditions.
- f) Watering of the horses along the route is permitted according to an SOP compiled by the transporter and approved by SV: Boland before the horse leaves the VP quarantine facility for AHS movement control. Staff may enter the transport vehicle via a small door under vector protected conditions e.g. with the application of insecticide and insect repellent on clothing, entering during daylight hours, opening the door while in a low risk area. The door must be open for as short a period as possible.
- g) The transporter must inform SV: Boland or his/her authorized representative of the arrival time of the horse. The seal may only be broken at the destination in the AHS controlled area by SV: Boland or his/her authorised representative.
- h) If there are horses moving from the VP quarantine facility for AHS movement control to more than one destination within the AHS controlled area, the seal must be broken at the first destination within the AHS controlled area.
- i) SV: Boland must be informed if the seal is broken before entry into the AHS controlled area for animal welfare or other reasons.

Part E

RESPONSIBILITIES WITH REGARD TO THE REGISTRATION, MANAGEMENT AND OPERATION OF A VECTOR PROTECTED QUARANTINE FACILITY FOR AHS MOVEMENT CONTROL

SV: Boland is responsible for the inspection, registration and auditing of VP quarantine facilities in collaboration with the local state veterinarian, independent inspector and consulting private veterinarian. SV: Boland may delegate the inspection of a VP quarantine

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facility for AHS movement control to the local state veterinarian and the auditing of a VP quarantine facility for AHS movement control to the local state veterinarian or to an independent inspector.

1. Responsibilities of SV Boland:

- 1.1. Inspection for registration of a potential VP quarantine facility and associated standard operating procedures in collaboration with the local state veterinarian.
- 1.2. Registration of a compliant VP quarantine facility as a VP quarantine facility for AHS movement control.
- 1.3. Auditing of VP quarantine facilities for AHS movement control in collaboration with the local state veterinarian at least once a year.
- 1.4. Annual re-inspection of VP quarantine facilities for AHS movement control in collaboration with the local state veterinarian for maintenance of registration.
- 1.5. Maintenance of a list of approved VP quarantine facilities for AHS movement control.
- 1.6. Regular communication with the relevant state veterinarians, private veterinarians, independent inspectors and VP quarantine managers.
- 1.7. Written confirmation of the start of VP quarantine period for each horse.
- 1.8. Receipt and processing of applications to move horses into the AHS controlled area via the VP quarantine facilities.

2. Responsibilities of the local state veterinarian

- 2.1. Consultation with SV: Boland with regard to inspection, registration and operation of a VP quarantine facility for AHS movement control.
- 2.2. Inspection of the VP facilities, structure, operation, management and registers according to this SOP.
- 2.3. Issuing of the inspection reports as described in this SOP.
- 2.4. Consultation with SV: Boland with regard to auditing of VP quarantine facilities for AHS movement control.

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- 2.5. Informing SV: Boland if any irregularities are detected or any corrective action has been taken or if there are any concerns that may increase the AHS risk.

3. Responsibilities of the certifying private veterinarian

- 3.1. Regular consultation with the local state veterinarian and SV: Boland.
- 3.2. Immediate notification to the local state veterinarian and SV: Boland if there is any suspicion of an undiagnosed infectious disease that could be AHS in a horse in the VP quarantine facility for AHS movement control.
- 3.3. Verification of the identification, AHS vaccination dates and passport of the horse.
- 3.4. Collection of samples for AHS testing on day 14 of VP quarantine.
- 3.5. Completion of the laboratory sample submission form in full.
- 3.6. Verification that the temperature logs of the horse(s) are complete and that no irregularities have been noted.
- 3.7. On receipt of negative test results and an AHS movement permit for movement into the AHS controlled area, completion of the Health Certificate for Movement in the passport, not more than 72 hours prior to movement.
- 3.8. Written pre-notification of the movement to SV: Boland.

4. Responsibilities of the manager of the VP quarantine for AHS movement control

- 4.1. The drafting and maintenance of all standard operating procedures as described in this SOP.
- 4.2. Regular communication with the SV: Boland, the local state veterinarian, independent inspector and the certifying private veterinarian.
- 4.3. Maintenance of the structural requirements for the VP quarantine facility for AHS movement control.
- 4.4. Operation and compliance with the VP quarantine protocol as described in this SOP.
- 4.5. The completion of all relevant registers associated with each VP quarantine period in a manner that is easily auditable.
- 4.6. Informing the local state veterinarian and SV: Boland (move@myhorse.org.za) in

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writing within 24 hours of the start of each vector protected quarantine period so that day 1 of the start of VP quarantine can be recorded.

- 4.7. Communication of any rise in temperature or abnormal clinical symptoms in the horses on the holding to the local state veterinarian and SV: Boland within 24 hours.
- 4.8. Communication of any irregularities or corrective action required or taken to the local state veterinarian and SV: Boland within 24 hours.
- 4.9. Release of a horse from VP quarantine for movement into the AHS controlled area only if an AHS movement permit has been issued by SV: Boland and received by the VP quarantine manager.

5. Responsibilities of the independent inspector

- 5.1. Inspection of the VP facilities, structure, operation, management and registers according to this SOP before the start of the quarantine period and during the quarantine period.
- 5.2. Reporting of any non-compliances to SV: Boland and the local state veterinarian immediately and within 24 hours in writing.
- 5.3. Inspection of the VP transport vehicle prior to loading according to this SOP and sealing the vehicle after loading.
- 5.4. Submission of a written report to SV: Boland and the local state veterinarian at the completion of each VP quarantine period.
- 5.5. Performance of inspections of the VP stable building from 15:00 to 10:00 to ensure the horses have been stabled at the correct times in the VP stable building.


6. Responsibilities of the transporter transporting the horse from the VP quarantine facility for AHS movement control to the AHS controlled area

- 6.1. Ensuring that each horse is accompanied by a valid passport as described in the SOP: Acceptable Identification of Horses.
- 6.2. Ensuring that each horse is accompanied by a valid AHS movement permit issued by SV: Boland and a health certificate for movement has been completed

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- by a veterinarian in the passport.
- 6.3. Ensuring that the transport vehicle is clean and vector protected according to the requirements of this SOP prior to loading.
 - 6.4. Ensuring that each horse is loaded under vector protected conditions during daylight hours between 10h00 in the morning and 15h00 in the afternoon. Horses must be sprayed with an insecticide and insect repellent as described in this SOP before they leave the VP facility.
 - 6.5. Ensuring that the transport vehicle is sealed by the independent inspector once loading is completed.
 - 6.6. Ensuring that the horse/s are transported directly to the destination in the AHS controlled area under continuous vector protected conditions.
 - 6.7. Ensuring that an SOP for watering of the horses at pre-arranged points on the route has been approved by SV: Boland prior to the start of the VP quarantine period.
 - 6.8. Informing SV: Boland or his/her authorized representative of the arrival time of the horse. The seal may only be broken at the destination in the AHS controlled area by SV: Boland or his/her authorised representative.

This is the end of the AHS control SOP: Standards for the Registration, Management and Movement through a Vector Protected Facility for African horse sickness Movement Control.

Signature	
Name	Dr Mpho Maja
Designation	Director: Animal Health
Date	2019 -12- 0 4

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